

Remarks

Claims 1-6 have been cancelled and new claims 12-17 have been added which more clearly define the invention and distinguish the same over the several references of record. Favorable consideration of the newly submitted claims respectfully is requested in view of the following comments.

The patent to Dabbish et al clearly provides for a method of authenticating the proper component of a vehicle. The authentication process, however, is different from the claimed process. In the Dabbish et al method, there is a certifying authority consisting of a manufacturer or supplier which supplies an authorized component containing certain identifier data, and distinct and independent means for certifying the authenticity of the component in a vehicle essentially consisting of a device for detecting such identifier data in a memory module which is installed in the vehicle. If the authorized component is replaced or reconfigured, the detecting device will so determine and correspondingly cause a nonfunction of the device.

In the claimed invention, the authentic module is simply installed in the vehicle, the microcomputer reads out the data of a memory of the authentic module along with a selected identifier of the module, encrypts the data, records the extracted identifier in the microcomputer and restores the encrypted data into the memory of the module. If the module is replaced by an unauthentic module or is reconfigured, the microcomputer will probe the unauthentic module for a match of the extracted identifier recorded in the

microcomputer and if not successful, will preclude the operation of the device with the installed unauthentic or reconfigured module.

In Dabbish et al the provider of the product includes the identifier in both the authentic memory module and the probing device, and in the claimed invention, the provider includes the identifier in only the authentic memory module and not any probing device which requires the probing device to extract the identifier from the authentic memory module and store it for future comparison with identifiers of replacement or reconfigured modules in determining whether such replacement or reconfigured modules are authentic.

None of the secondary references cited teach any modification of the method of Dabbish et al to arrive at the aforementioned method as recited in the newly submitted claims. Furthermore, any modification of the method of Dabbish et al possibly taught by any of the secondary references would result in a substantial reconstruction of the Dabbish et al method.

The method of the claimed invention is far simpler than the Dabbish et al method, easier to practice and more economical in use.

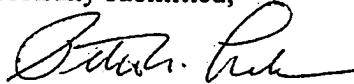
In view of the foregoing, respectfully is requested that the newly submitted claims be allowed and the application be passed to issue. In the alternative, it is requested that the amendment be entered to place the application in better condition for appeal.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this

U.S. Appln. No. 10/525,213
Atty. Docket No.: 8369.005.US0200

application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 14-1437.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: November 26, 2008